

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 25 MAY 2003

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

In the news today:

REPORT ON 17 MAY SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING BY CLUBS

RESULTS OF MAY 2003 RAE RELEASED IN RECORD TIME

RESULTS OF THE PEARS VHF/UHF CONTEST

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. SARL NEWS regrets that the incorrect address had slipped in in some previous bulletins. If some submitted news items had been missed by us, please resubmit it. It would be appreciated if you could submit items in both Afrikaans and English.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL.

The news follows in detail:

REPORT ON 17 MAY SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING BY CLUBS

On 17th May a Special Budget Meeting was held by club representatives at the NARC in Johannesburg. Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ as acting President stepped in to chair the meeting. 6 Councillors were present, and a total of 10 clubs from Division 6 were represented at this meeting. The meeting had input from the Cape Town meeting; input from a meeting held in Natal; as well as a proposed budget together with notes and proposals from East London.

Although the meeting was intended only to discuss the proposed new budget, discussions covered a wide range of issues.

The Treasurer, Bill ZS5KD, presented a draft budget based on a reduced ordinary fee of R300 pa. After a detailed discussion of individual budget items, it was recognized that the ordinary membership fee could not be set too low if the current activities of the League were to be properly financed. It was considered that the figure of R250 pa proposed by the Cape Town group was too low, as

this would be much the same as the previous year's fees in real terms, and would not provide for any reduction of the accumulated deficit. The figure of R275 proposed by East London could be made to work but would also restrict the operation of the League. The originally proposed fee of R330 pa was definitely too high, and would result in a substantial backlash from members. Similarly, the fee presented of R300 was considered too high, and would result in the loss of too many members.

After much discussion, the members present agreed to recommend a subscription rate of R285 pa for ordinary members and affiliated clubs, and R60 for family members. It was further recommended that the gap between ordinary membership and senior / pensioner membership be eliminated, as the costs associated with providing services were identical. It was recognized that this would have a negative effect on some retired members, and it was suggested that clubs could subsidise deserving cases. There is also provision for the SARL to subsidise these fees on an individual basis.

The final recommendations by this meeting to the SGM are as follows:

1. That annual subscription fees be set as follows: 1.1 Ordinary members, senior members and affiliated clubs - R285; 1.2 Family members - R60; 1.3 Overseas members - R600.
2. The Treasurer is tasked to develop a budget based on the proposed fees, using a maximum membership of 1 150 and with the requirement that a minimum of 35% of the total deficit at the end of this financial year be liquidated. Costs would therefore have to be adjusted to achieve that result.
3. Council should pay serious attention to control of expenditure to ensure that cost overruns such as that experienced over the last year do not recur.
4. Council should ensure that expenditure during the early part of the new financial year is restricted on a conservative basis until membership numbers for the year have materialized and are understood.
5. The treasurer should provide summary reports of membership, income and expenditure, preferably on a monthly basis.
6. All members present and participating in this recommendation should publicly support it within their clubs, and attempt to provide explanations where these are required.
7. It was recognized that the setting of subscription fees and the budget was only part of the whole picture. There was a real concern that members do not feel they are obtaining value for money from their membership. It was clear that work needed to be done to solve this more basic problem in the future.

Remember, the Special General Meeting at which the new budget must be presented, discussed, amended and accepted, has been convened for the 21st

June at the NARC.

RESULTS OF MAY 2003 RAE RELEASED IN RECORD TIME

The results of the May RAE written on Saturday 17 May, has been posted on Thursday May 22 on the SARL web site www.sarl.org.za. The highest mark obtained is 97% by E F Fynn from Durban. He is now the proud owner of the callsign ZR5EF.

Official letters announcing the results will soon be mailed to all candidates. The SARL, however, has an agreement with ICASA that allows candidates to use their callsigns immediately.

The Council of the SARL congratulates the new amateurs and wishes them many years of pleasure in their new hobby.

RESULTS OF THE PEARS VHF/UHF CONTEST

Although conditions were rather poor, at least sixty logs have been received for the contest. Here are the winning scores:

LONGEST DISTANCES:

Analogue: 50 MHz: ZR1AEE to ZS6Y 1 241 km; 144 MHz: ZR2GB & ZS2KW to ZS5LEE & ZS2HB 460 km; 432 MHz: ZR2GB & ZS2KW to ZS2ACP 224 km.

Digital: 50 MHz: ZR1ADI to ZS6WB 1 350 km; 144 MHz: ZR1AEE to ZS6WB 1 299 km; 432 MHz: ZS6NK to ZS6WB 240 km.

DIVISIONAL WINNERS

Analogue: 50 MHz: Fixed ZR1AEE 1602 ZS2BWB 499 ZS6HS 146

Field	ZR2GB & ZS2KW	728
Multi-op	ZS1MZ	3736

144 MHz:

Fixed ZR1AEE 285 ZS2CLI 2359 ZR3CDK 897 ZS6EGB 538 Field ZR2GJ/1 & ZS2AZR/1 1180 ZR2GB & ZS2KW 5080 Multi-op ZS1MZ 6943 QRP ZS1I 130 ZR5DK 380 ZR6KEV 100

432 MHz:

Fixed	ZR1AEE	155
	ZS2BWB	600
	ZS6EGB	187
Field	ZR2GB & ZS2KW	1142
Multi-op	ZS1MZ	2889

Digital (All Bands) Overall Winner ZS6WB 12575 Runner-up ZS1AGF 6070

HOëRSKOOL JOHN VORSTER RADIO KLUB RENAMED

The H/S John Vorster Amateur Radio Club has been renamed as the Vossie Radio Klub. It will now include ordinary and learner members. The main focus of the club is construction projects and the constitution has been amended to suit these new requirements.

The callsign ZS6VOS remains and they are happy to announce that the club does not have annual clubfees, but membership is gained through active participation and lost if you are not involved. All tinkerers and constructors are welcome. You are cordially invited to join them.

They meet once a month on the first Saturday at 10:00 at the home of a different member. The next meeting will be:

7 June 2003 10:00 at the house of OM Sakkie ZS6BPA 37 Williamson Street Dunnottar.

You are also welcome to contact OM Pieter ZS6XT their chairman or Chris ZS6COG and Harry ZR6FWH.

CHEQUE PAYMENTS TO SARL

To all who make use of cheques to make payments to the South African Radio League, please note that due to strict controls imposed by our bankers, cheques should only be made out using "South African Radio League" in full and not the abbreviation "SARL". Your assistance with this would be greatly appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER

The SARL President's net at 12:00 today on 7 082 kHz. PEARS Microwave and Digital contest on 13 - 15 June; SARL SPECIAL GENERAL BUDGET MEETING at the NARC on 21 June.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin which was compiled by Martin, ZS6ABU and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21 560, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone. /EX